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A

NARRATIVE

OF THE WICKED

PLOTS

Carried On by *SEIGNIOR*

GONDAMORE

For ADVANCING the

Popish Religion

AND

Spanish Faction.

Heartily Recommended to all PROTESTANTS By

Rich. Dugdale, Gent.

Ephes. v. 11, 12.

Have no Fellowship with the unfruitful Works of Darkness, but rather reprove them; For it is a shame even to speak of those Things, which are done of them in secret.

LONDON,

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THE

PREFACE.

Courteous Reader,

THIS *following* Narrative *has run all the hazards and risks of* Fortune, *it breathed for a long time in the obſcure Shadow of a* Country *and* Loyal *DIVINES* Study, *after the death of that* Worthy *and* Eminent perſon, *a* Relation *to the* Great E. *of* Strafford, *it fell into the hands of One of his* Younger Sons, *who being a* Man *of* Buſineſs, *and a daily Frequenter of* Weſtminſter-Hall, *that* Great Mart *and* Exchange *of Law, This lay bundled up, among ſome* bundles *of* inſignificant *and* Worthleſs Papers, *till it pleaſed God to confine this* Gentleman *to his* Chamber, *by a Diſtemper, which though it was ſo ſevere as to deny him to* Act abroad, *yet it did not ſo* at home: *Under this* Impriſonment (*for* Reſtraint *is ſuch to* Active Spirits) *He reviewed His long neglected Writings, and being unwilling like the* Rable *of the* Town, *to* condemn *and* execute *upon a bare* Preſumption *of* Guilt: *He calls all to a* ſingle Scrutiny *and* Examination: *The* Multitude *here, as in the* World, *proved* Traſh *and* Refuſe, *only this* Manuſcript, *like* Moſes *among the* Reeds, *was preſerved* alive, *becauſe it was of a very* fair *and* beautiful Countenance: Perils *and* Manifold Sorts *of* Death *attend* Writings *as well as their* Authors, *and* Gods Providence *is as* legible *in the* extraordinary Preſervation *of* uſeful *and* profitable BOOKS, *as in* Raiſing up *and* Protecting PERSONS *of* invincible Reſolution *and* Courage, *to be the* publick Inſtruments *of the* Churches *and* Kingdoms Deliverance; *Of this* advantageous Nature *and* Conſideration, *I take theſe* following Sheets *to be, for herein are evidently* diſcourſed *and* unriddled *the Deſigns of the* Spaniſh Match, *the* Strategems *of the comprehenſive* Statesman Gondamore, *and of his faithful Adherents the* JESUITES; *for the Introduction of his Maſters* Religion *and* Empire *into theſe Nations together, the* Negotiations *betwixt* Spain *and* Great Britain *were, in King* James *Raign, the* unaccountable State-Secrets *and Myſteries, Theſe exerciſed and diſtreſſed the Combin'd* Heads *and Wits of our* Great Council, *raiſed the Fears and Jealouſies of the* People, *and prepared them to entertain thoſe* groundleſs Suggeſtions, *which afterward both gave Riſe and Support to our* late Civil Wars. *The Deſigns of the* Catholick Biſhop *and* Monarck, *in all theſe Treaties of Mariage, were to enſlave us to a* Falſe *and* Foppiſh Religion *and a* Tyrannical Government, *and though Pretences of* Commerce *and* Friendſhip *ſwom at the Top, yet theſe were the great Motives, which lay at the Bottom. To compaſs theſe, Perjuries and the Violation of the Mariage-Oath with an* Heretical Prince, *would be a Sacred and Meritorious A-*

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tion, and if the Antichriſtian Beaſt *could be drawn in, as the* Giant *did the Cattle into his Den, backward, and by the Tayl, 'tis no matter, how much* Reaſon *and* Morality *is affronted; nay, His Holineſs, out of the* Plenitude *of his* Power, *will Indulge his faithfulleſt Adherents to renounce even* in extremis *at the very point of Death, Some Eſſential and Reproachful* Articles *of their* Faith (*as the Lawfulneſs of* Depoſing *Kings and Soveraign Princes) that the whole* Syſtem *may with the leſs Suſpition be glibly ſwallowed down and entertained. The Dimenſions of* Hercules *were exactly calculated by the meaſure of his Foot, and the Magnitude of a* Limb *may diſcover to the* Intelligent *the true Bulk of a* Sumetrical *and well built Body; and the horrid* Lies *and* Immoralities, Rapines *and* Murders, Aſſaſſinations *and* Maſſacres *approved of in This ſmall* Pamphlet, *for the Effecting of the* Romiſh *DESIGN, may ſufficiently Inſtruct ſuch (of the villanous and pernicious Nature of the whole) as have caſt out the* Two Devils *of* Prejudice *and of a* blind *and* implicite Faith *in that* Arch-Fanatick *of* Europe *and* Divider *of* Kingdoms; *for he it is (and for this* Leſſon *I muſt acknowledg my ſelf intirely indebted to this* Paper) *who ſows the* Tares *of* Diviſion *betwixt the* Gown-men *of this* Nation: *Sets the* Lawyer *to quarrel the* Divine: *The* Two Temples *to deprecate the* Church, *and* Weſtminſter-Hall *to envy the Princely and Magnificent Structure of the* Abby. *Read This DISCOVERY with Seriouſneſs, and I am confident, it will prove very Inſtructive in many Important Particulars: 'Twas its Misfortune to lie ſo long in* obſcurity, *and ſo was it too to breath firſt of all in an* Air, *infected with the* Stench *of ſuch an* infinite Number *of* puny, inſect *and* Imperfect Libels: *Here is nothing in this but what is* Maſculine, *the* Argument *is weighty, the* Style *paſſant and expreſſive, the* Diſcovery *of the* Popiſh *DESIGNS in that* Juncto *of* Affairs *clear and palpable, and that it may be* ſerviceable *in this to the* Publick-weal *is the* Only *Deſign and* hearty Wiſh *of Him, Who is*

Vid. Concil. Lateran. magnum ſub Innocentio 30. *Can.* 30. *de Hereticis*, where the Legality of the *Popes* Power to Depoſe *Princes* is aſſerted, and this Declaration thus Authoritively made (denyed by the late dying *CONSPIRATORS*) is a ſufficient Ground of Faith, except They will Grant, the *Catholick Church* both Repreſentative and Vertual to be Fallible, which *Conceſſion* vvould ſtab *Popery* in its Vitals, and kill it at a Blow.

Reader,

A hearty Well-willer to the Welfare and Proſperity of this NATION

RICHARD DUGDALE.

A NARRATIVE OF THE Popish Strategems Carried On by *Seigniour* GONDAMORE THE SPANISH EMBASSADOR, &c.

HIS *Catholick Majesty* having given Commandment, that presently upon the Return of *Seigniour GONDAMORE*, the *Leiger* Embassador from *ENGLAND*, a special meeting of the Principal States of *Spain*, who were of his Councel, together with the *Presidents* of the Council of *Castile*, of *Aragon*, of *Italy*, of *Portugal*, of the *Indies*, of the *Treasure of War*, and especially of the *Holy Inquisition*, should be held at *Monson* in *Arragon*, the Duke of *Lerma*, being appointed *President*, who should make Declaration of his Majesties pleasure, take an Account of the *Embassadors* Service, and consult touching the STATE and RELIGION respectively, to give satisfaction to his *Holiness's Nuntio*, who was desired to make one in this Assembly, concerning Overtures of Peace and *Amity* with the *English*, and other *Catholick* Princes, which might engender Suspicion and Jealousie betwixt the *Pope* and his *Majesty*; if the Mystery were not unfolded, and the ground of those Counsels discovered aforehand: This made all men expect the Embassadors Return with a kind of *Longing*, that they might behold the Issue of this Meeting, and see what good for the *Catholick Cause* the Embassadors Employment had effected in *England*, answerable to the general opinion received of his Wisdom, and what further project would be set on foot to become matter for publick Discourse.

At length he Arrived, and had present notice given him from his Majesty, That before he came to Court, he should give up his Account to this Assembly, which Command he gladly received, as an earnest of his acceptable Service, and gave Thanks, that for his *Honour* he might publish himself in so judicious a presence.

He came first upon the day appointed to the Councel Chamber, not long after all the Councel of State, and the *President* met, there wanted only the Duke of *Lerma* and the *Popes* Nuntio, who were the Head and Feet of all the Assembly. These two stayed long away for divers respects: The *Nuntio*, that he might express the greatness of his Master, and loose the See of *Rome* no respect by his *Over-sight*, but that the benches might be full at his Approoch. The Duke of *Lerma* to express the Authority and Dignity of his own Person, and to shew how a Servant put in place of his Master exacts more service of his Fellow-Servants than the Master himself.

These two stayed till all the rest were weary of waiting, but at length the *Nuntio* supposing all the Council sat, launced forth and came to *Roade* in the Council Chamber, where after mutual discharge of Duty from the Company, and blessing upon it from him, he sate down in solemn silence, grieving at his oversight, when he saw the Duke of *Lerma* absent, with whom he strove as a Competitor for *Pomp* and *Glory*.

The *Duke* had sent before, and understood of the *Nuntio*'s being there, and stayed something the longer, That his boldness might be observed, wherein he had his desire; for the *Nuntio* having a while, patiently driven away the time with several Complements to several Persons, had now almost run his *Patience* out of breath; but the Duke of *Villa Hermosa* (President of the Council of *Arragon*) fed his humour by the discharge of his own discontentment, upon the occasion of the Duke of *Lerma* his absence, and beckoned *Seigniour Gondamore* to him, using this speech in the hearing of the *Nuntio*, after a sporting manner. *How unhappy are the People, where you have been*; first, *for their Souls, being Hereticks*, then *for their Estates, where the name of a Favourite is so familiar? How happy is our Estate, where the Keys of Life and Death are so easily come by* (pointing at the NUNTIO) *hanging at every Religious Girdle, and where the door of Justice and Mercy stand equally open to all Men, without respect of Persons.* The Embassadour knew the *Ironical* stroak to be intended as a by-blow to the *Nuntio*, but fully at the Duke of *Lerma* (whose greatness began now to wax heavy towards Declension) and therefore he returned this Answer, *Your Excellency knoweth the State is happy, where* wise Favourites *govern Kings, if the Kings themselves be foolish, or if the wiser Sort will not yet be govern'd by them.* The STATE of ENGLAND *(howsoever you hear of it in* Spain *or* Rome*) is so happy in the last kind, they need not care much what the Favourite be (though for the most part, he be such as prevents all Suspition in that kind, being rather chose as a Scholar to be taught than a Tutor to teach) of this they are sure no Prince exceeds theirs in personal Abilities, so that nothing could be added to him in my wish, but this one*, He were our Vassayle and a Catholick.

With that the noise without gave notice of the Duke of *Lerma* his entrance, at whose first Approach the whole House arose, though some latter than others, as if some had hung Plummets on them to keep them down, the *Nuntio* only sate unremoved: the Duke received the Obeysance of the rest with a familiar kind of carriage to high for Courtesie, as one not neglecting such demeanors, but expecting it, and after a Filial observance to the *Popes Nuntio*, sate down as *President* under the Cloath of State, but somewhat lower, then after a Space given for admiration, preparation and attention.

The

The *PRESIDENTS* Speech, requiring the Embaſſador to give an Account of his *PLOTS* and *wicked INTREAGUES* againſt ENGLAND, and what Succeſs he met with.

THE King my Maſter (holding it more honourable to do, than to diſcourſe, to take from you the Expectation of Oratory, uſed rather in Schools and Pulpits than in Councels) hath appointed me Preſident *in this holy, wiſe, learned and noble Aſſembly, a man naturally of a ſlow Speech, and not deſirous to quicken it by Art or Induſtry, as holding* Action *only proper to a* Spaniard, *as I am by Birth, to a* Souldier *as I am by Profeſſion, to a* King *as I am by Repreſentation, take this therefore briefly for a Declaration, both for the Cauſe of this Meeting, and my Maſter his further pleaſure.*

There hath been at all times from the Worlds foundation, one Chief Commander, or Monarch upon the Earth, this needs no further proof than a back-looking into our own Memories and Hiſtories of the World, neither now is there any queſtion (except with Infidels and Heretieks) of that one Chief Commander in Spirituals, in the Unity of whoſe Perſon, the Members of the viſible Church *is included, but there is ſome doubt of the* Chief Commander *in* Temporals, *(who as the Moon to the Sun) might govern by night, as this by day, and by the Sword of Juſtice, compell to come in, or cut of, ſuch as infringe the Authority of the Keys: This hath been ſo well underſtood long ſince by the infallible Chair, as that thereby upon the Declenſion of the* Roman Emperours, *and the Increaſe of* Romes *Spiritual Splendour (who thought it unnatural, that their Suns ſhould be ſublunary) our* Nation, *was by the Biſhop of Rome ſelected before other People, to conquer and rule other Nations with a Rod of Iron, and our* Kings *to that end adorned with the Stile of* Catholik Kings, *as a Name above all Names under the Sun, (which is) under Gods Vicar General himſelf the Catholick Biſhop of Souls: To inſtance this point by compariſon, look firſt upon the* Grand Seignior, *the* Great Turk, *who hath a large Title but not univerſal, for beſides that he is an Infidel, his command is confin'd within his own Territories, and he is not ſtil'd* Emporor *of the World, but of the Turks and of their Vaſſayles, only among* Chriſtians *the Defendor of the Faith was a glorious Stile, whilſt the* King *to whom it was given by his* Holineſs *continued worthy of it, but it ſtood not in the truth, neither yet thoſe that ſucceeded him; and beſides it was no great thing to be call'd what every good Chriſtian ought to be, Defendor of the Faith, no more than to be ſtiled with* France *the moſt Chriſtian* King, *wherein he hath the greateſt part of his Title common with moſt Chriſtians. The* Emperor *of* Ruſſia,

Rome

Rome and Germany extend not their Limits further than their Stiles, which are local, only my Maſter the moſt Catholik King is for the Dominion of Bodies, as the Univerſal Biſhop for the Dominion of Souls over all that Part of the World, which we call America, (except where the Engliſh Intruders uſurp) and the greateſt Part of Europe, with ſome Part of Aſia and Africa by actual Poſſeſſion, and over all the reſt by real and indubitable Right, yet acknowledgeth his Right to be derived from the free and Fatherly Donation of his Holineſs, who (as the Sun to the Moon) beſtows Luſtre by Reflection, to this Kingdom, to this King of Kings, my Maſter; what therefore he hath, howſoever gotten, he may keep and hold; What he can from any other King, or Commander, by any Stratagem of War, or pretence of Peace he may take, for it is theirs only by Uſurpation, except they hold of him, from whom all Civil Power is derived, as Eccleſiaſtical from his Holineſs: what the Ignorant call Treaſon, if it be on his behalf, is Truth; if againſt him, it is Treaſon: And thus all our Peace, our War, our Treaties, Marriages, or whatſoever Intendment elſe of Ours, Aimes at this Principal End, to get the whole Poſſeſſion of the World, and to reduce all to Unite under our Temporal Head, that our King may truly be, what he is ſtiled the Catholick and Univerſal King: As Faith therefore is Univerſal, and the Truth Univerſal, yet ſo as they be under our Head the Pope, whoſe Seat is, and muſt neceſſarily be, at Rome, where St. Peter ſate; ſo muſt all men be Subject to Our and Their Catholick King, whoſe Particular Seat is here in Spain, he is Univerſal every where, and almoſt made Natural, ſo that by a Key of Gold, by Intelligence, or by way of Confeſſion, my Maſter is able to unlock the Secrets of every Prince, and to withdraw their Subjects Allegiance, as if they knew Themſelves more my Maſters Subjects in Truth, than Theirs, whom Their Birth hath taught to miſcall Soveraigns, we ſee this in France and in England, and eſpecially, where all at once they learn to obey the Church of Rome, as their Mother, to acknowledge the Catholick King, as their Father, and to hate their Own King as an Heretick and Uſurper: So we ſee Religion and the State coupled together, laugh and weep, flouriſh and fade, and participate of eithers Fortunes, as growing upon one Stock of Policy: I ſpeak this the more boldly in this Preſence; becauſe I ſpeak here before none but Natives, Perſons who are Partakers, both in Themſelves and Iſſues of the Triumphs, above all thoſe of Antient Rome, and therefore ſuch (as beſides their Oaths) it concerns to be ſecret, neither need we refrain this Freedom of Speech from the Nuntio his Preſence; becauſe, beſides that he is a Spaniard by Birth, He is alſo a JESUITE by Profeſſion, an Order raiſed by the Providence of Gods VICAR, to accompliſh this Monarchy the better, All of Them being Appropriate thereunto,

and

and as Publick Agents *and* Privy Councellors *to this end; wherein the Wisdom of the* State *is to be beheld with* Admiration, *that as in* Temporal War *it imploys, or at least trusts none, but Natives in* Castile, Portugal *and* Arragon: *So in Spirituals, it imploys none but* JESUITES, *and so imploys them, that they are generally reputed, how remote soever they are from us, how much soever obliged to* Others, *still to be* Ours, *and still to be of the* Spanish Faction, *though they be* Polonians, English, French, *and residing in the* Countrys or Courts: *The* Penitent *therefore, and all with whom they deal and converse in their Spiritual* Traffique *must needs be so too, and so our* Catholick King *must needs have an* Invisible Kingdom, *and an unknown number of Subjects in all Dominions, who will shew themselves and their Faith by their works of Disobedience, whensoever we shall have occasion to use their* Jesuitical Vertue *and* Policy: *This therefore being the principal end of all our Counsels; (according to those Holy Directions of that late* Pious King PHILIP *the Second, to his Son succeeding) to advance the* Catholick Roman *Religion, and the Catholick* Spanish *Dominion together. We are now met by* His Majesties *Command to take an account of you,* (Seignior GONDAMORE) *who have been* Embassador *for* England, *to see what good you have effected there, towards the advancement of this work; and what further projects shall be thought fit to be set on foot to this end; and this breifly is the occasion of our meeting.*

Then the Embassador, *who attended bare-headed all the time, with a low Obeysance, began thus,*

This laudable Custome of our *King* in bringing all Officers to such an account, where a Review is taken of *good* and *bad services*, upon the Determination of their Imployments, resembles those *Roman* Triumphs appointed for the Souldiers; and as in them it provoked to *Courage*, So in us it stirs up to diligence, our *Master* converseth by his *Agents* with all the World, yet with none of more Regard than the *ENGLISH*, where matter of such diversity is presented (through the several Humours of the States, and those of our Religion and Faction) that no Instruction can be sufficient for such Negotiations, but

 much,

much muſt be left in truſt to the Diſcretion, Judgment, and Diligence of the Incumbent; I ſpeak this not for my own Glory I having been reſtrained and therefore deſerved meanly; but to forwarn on the behalf of others, that there may be more Scope allowed them to deal in, as occaſion ſhall require; Breifly this *Rule* delivered by His *Excellency* was the Card and Compaſs by which I ſayled, to make profit of all Humours, and by all means to advance the State of the *Romiſh Faith*, and *Spaniſh Faction*, together upon all advantages of Oaths and the breach of them; for this is an old Obſervation and a true one, that for Piety to *Rome* his *Holineſs* did not only give, but bleſs us, in the *Conqueſt* of the *New World*, and thus in our pious Obſervance, we hope ſtill to be Conquerors of the Old; and to this end, whereas His *Excellency* in his excellent Diſcourſe ſeems to extend our outward Forces and private Aims, only againſt *Hereticks*, and to reſtrain them with true Amity with theſe of the *Romiſh Religion*: this I affirm that ſince there can be no ſecurity, but ſuch *Princes* though now *Romiſh Catholicks* may turn Hereticks hereafter, my Aimes have ever been to make profit of all, and to make my *Mr. Maſter* of all, who is a faithful and conſtant Son of his Mother *ROME*; and to this end I beheld the Endeavours of our *Kings* of happy memory, how they have atcheived *Kingdoms* and *Conqueſts* by this *Policy*, rather than by open *Hoſtility*, and that without difference, as well from their *Allies* and *Kinſfolks*, men of the ſame *Religion* and *Profeſſion*; ſuch as were thoſe of *Naples*, *France* and *Navar*, though I do not mention *Portugal* now united to us, nor *Savoy*, (that hardly fly'd from us) as of an Adverſe and Heretical Faith, neither is this Rule left off, as the preſent *Kingdom* of *France*, the State of *Venice*, the *Low Countries* and *Bohemia* (now all labouring for Life under our *PLOTS*) apparently manifeſt; this way therefore I bent my *Engines* in *ENGLAND*, as your *Honours* ſhall particularly hear; I ſhall not need to repeat a *Catalogue* of the *Services* I have here done, becauſe this *State* hath been acquainted with many of them heretofore, by Entercourſe of *Letters*, and *Meſſengers*; theſe only I will ſpeak of that I have of late done, ſince the return of the *Lord Roos* from hence, and may ſeem moſt directly to tend to thoſe ends formerly propounded by his *Excellency* that is, the Advancement of the *Spaniſh State*, and *Romiſh Religion* together. Firſt it is well obſerved by the Wiſedom of our *State*, that the *King* of *England* (who is otherwiſe one of the moſt accompliſh'd *Princes* that ever Reigned) extreemly hunts after Peace and ſo affects the true name of a Peace-maker, as that for it he will do or ſuffer any thing, and withall they have beheld the general bounty and munificence of his Mind, and neceſſity of the *State* ſo exhauſted, as it is unable to ſupply his deſires, who ſeeks to have that he may give to others, upon theſe advantages they have given out directions, and inſtructions both to me and others, and I have obſerved them as far as I was able.

And for this purpoſe, whereas there was a Marriage propounded betwixt them and us; ((howſoever I ſuppoſe our *State* too devout to deal with *Hereticks* in this kind in earneſt) yet I made that a *Cover* for much *Intelligence*, and a *means* to obtain what I deſired, whilſt the *State* of *England* longed after the Marriage, hoping thereby (though vainly) to ſetle Peace, and fill the *Exchequer*; Here the *Arch-Biſhop* of *Toledo*, Inquiſitor-General, ſtept up and interrupted *Gondamore*, ſaying that Marriage was not to be thought on, firſt for Religions ſake, leſt they ſhould endanger the *Soul* of the Young *Lady*, and the reſt of her Company might

might become *Hereticks*. Secondly, for the *State*, leaſt by giving ſo large a Portion to *Hereticks*, they ſhould enrich and enable themſelves for War, and impoveriſh and weaken the *Catholicks*.

To the firſt Objection the *Popes Nuntio* anſwered, that his *Holineſs* for the Catholick *Cauſe* would diſpence with the Marriage; and urged theſe following Reaſons. Firſt that there was *Valuable Danger*, in the hazarding of *One* for the gaining of *Many*, perhaps of all. Secondly that it was no hazard ſince *Women* (eſpecially *Young Ones*) are too obſtinate to be removed from their *Opinions*, and abler to win *Solomon* to their *Opinions*, than *Solomon* to work them to his Faith. Thirdly it was great advantage to match with ſuch, from whom they might break at pleaſure, having the Catholick *Cauſe* for a Colour, and beſides if need were, to be at liberty in all reſpects, ſince there was no Faith to be kept with *Hereticks*; and if his *Holineſs* may diſpence with the Murder of ſuch, and diſpoſe of their *Crowns*, as what good *Catholick* doubts but he may; much more he may, and will he in their Marriages, to prevent the Leproſy-Seed of *Hereſy*, and to ſetle *Catholick-Blood* in the *Chair* of *State*: to the ſecond Objection the *Embaſſador* himſelf anſwered, ſaying, that though the *Engliſh* generally loathed the Match, and would as he thought buy it off with half their Eſtates, hating the *Nation* of *Spain*, and their *Religion* (as appears by an uproar and aſſault a day or two before his Departure from *London* by the Apprentices, being greedy to vent their own Spleen, in doing him or any of his a miſcheif) yet two ſorts of People unmeaſureably deſired the Match might proceed. Firſt, the begging and beggarly *Courtiers* that they might have to furniſh their Wants. Secondly, The *Romiſh Catholicks*, who hoped thereby, at leaſt, for a Moderation of *Fines*, and *Laws*, perhaps a *Toleration*; and perhaps a total *Reſtauration* of their Religion in *England*; in which regard quoth he, I have known ſome Zealous Perſons proteſt; that if all their Friends, and half their Eſtates could procure the Service of our *Lady*, if ſhe came to be married with the *Prince* they would uſe the means faithfully to fight under her Colours when they might ſafely do it, and if it came to *Portion* they would under-hand contribute largly of their Eſtates to the *Spaniſh Collector*, and make up half the Portion of themſelves, perhaps more: So by this Marriage it might be ſo wrought, that the *State* ſhould be rather robb'd, and weakened (which is our Aim) than ſtrengthened; as the *Engliſh* vainly hope; beſides in a ſmall time they ſhould work ſo far in the Body of the *State* by buying Offices and the like, either by *Sea* or *Land*; of Juſtice *Civil* or *Eccleſiaſtical*, in *Church* or *State*, (all being for *Money* expoſed to Sale) that with the Help of *Jeſuites* they would undermine with meer wit, (without *Gunpowder*) and leave the King but a few *Subjects*, whoſe Faith he might rely upon, while they were of a Faith adverſe to his: For what *Catholick-Body* that is ſound at the Heart, can abide a Corrupt and Heretical Head, or Ruler? With that the *Duke Medina des Rio Setto Preſident* of the *Council* of *War*, and of the *Council* of *State* roſe up and ſaid, His *Predeceſſors* had felt the Force and Wit of the *Engliſh*, in 88. and he had cauſe to doubt the *Catholicks* themſelves that were *Engliſh*, and fully *Jeſuited*, upon any Foreign *Nation*, would rather take part with their own King, though an *Heretick*, than with his *Catholick*-Majeſty a Stranger.

The *Embaſſador* deſired him to be of another mind, ſince, Firſt for their

their Perſons, generally their Bodies, by long diſuſe for *Arms* were diſabled, and their Minds effeminated, by *Peace* and *Luxury*, far from what they were in 88. when they were fleſht in our Blood, and made haughty in Cuſtomary *Conqueſts*; and for the affection of thoſe whom they call *Recuſants*, (quoth he) I know the bitterneſs of their inveterate malice, and have ſeen ſo far into their Natures, as I dare ſay, they will be for *Spain* againſt all the world; yea, (quoth he) I aſſure your *Honours*, I could not imagine ſo baſely of their *King* and *State*, as I have heard them ſpeak; nay, their Rage hath ſo perverted their Judgments, that what I my ſelf have ſeen and heard from their King beyond Admiration, even to Aſtoniſhment, they have ſleighted, miſreported ſcorned, and perverted to his diſgrace, and my rejoycing; magnifying in the mean time our defect for grace.

Here the *Duke Paſtrane*, *Preſident* of the Counſel, for *Italy*, ſteps up and ſaid he had lately read a Book of one *Cambdens* called his *Annals*; wherein writing of a Treaty of a Marriage long ſince, between Engliſh *Elizabeth*, and the French *Duke* of *Andiou*: He there obſerves, that the Marriage was not ſeriouſly intended on either ſide, but Politickly pretended by both *States* counterchangeably, that each might effect their own ends, there the *Engliſh* had the better; and I have ſome cauſe to doubt, ſince they can diſſemble, as well as we; that they have their Aimes under hand as well as we; and intend the *Match* as little as we do, and this (quoth he) I believe the rather becauſe the King as he is wiſe to conſult and conſider; ſo he is a conſtant Maſter of his word, and hath written, and given ſtrong Reaſons againſt *Matches* made with Perſons of contrary Religion; which Reaſons no other Man can anſwer: And therefore doubtleſs he will not go from, nor counſel his Son to forſake thoſe Rules laid down ſo deliberately.

Your *Excellency* miſtakes; (quoth the *Embaſſador*) the advantage was then on the Side of the *Engliſh*, becauſe the French Men ſought the *Match*; now it muſt be upon ours, becauſe the *Engliſh* ſeek it, who will grant any thing rather than break off; and beſides, they have no Patience to temporiſe and diſemble, in this or any other Deſign, as the *French* long ſince have well obſerved; for their neceſſities will give them neither time nor reſt, nor hope elſewhere to be ſupplyed. As for their King, I cannot ſearch into his heart, I muſt believe others that preſume to know his mind, hear his words, and read his writings, and theſe relate what I have delivered: But for the reſt of the People, as the number of thoſe, that are truly religious, are ever the leaſt for the moſt part of leaſt account: ſo is it there, where if an equal Oppoſition be made betwixt their truly *Religious* and *Ours*, the remainder will be the greateſt number and will ſtand indifferent, and fall to the greateſt Side, where there is moſt hope of Gain, and Glory: for thoſe two are the Gods of the *Magnitude*, and of the *Multitude*: Now theſe ſee apparently no certain Supplies for their wants, but from us.

Yes, quoth the *Duke*, for even now you ſaid the *General-State* loathing the *Match*, would redeem the fear thereof, with half their Eſtates: It is therefore but calling a *Parliament*, and the Buſineſs were ſoon effected. A *Parliament* (quoth the *Embaſſador*) nay, therein lies one of the *Principle-Services* I have done, in working ſuch a Diſlike between the King and the *Lower-Houſe*: by the Endeavour of that *Honourable-Earl* and *Admirable-Engine*, a ſure Servant to

us,

us, and the Cauſe whilſt he lives, as the King will never endure a *Parliament* again, but rather ſuffer abſolute want, than receive conditional releif from his *Subjects*: the Matter was ſo curiouſly carried the laſt *Parliament*, that is in the *Powder-PLOT*, the Fact effected ſhould have been imputed to the *Puritans*, the (greateſt *Zelots* of the *CALVINIAN-Sect*) ſo the Propoſitions which damn up the Proceedings of this *Parliament* (howſoever they were invented by Roman *Catholicks*, and by them invented to diſturb that Seſſion) yet were propounded in favour of the *Puritans*, as if they had been hammored in their Forge, which very *Name* and *Shadow* the King hates: it being a ſufficient Aſperſion to diſgrace any Perſon, to ſay he is ſuch, and a ſufficient Bar to ſtop any Suit, and utterly to croſs it, to ſay it ſmels of, or enclines to, that Party: moreover there are ſo many about him, which blow this *Coal* fearing their own States. If a *Parliament* ſhould enquire into their Actions, they uſe all their *Art*, and *Induſtry* to withſtand ſuch a *Council*: perſwading the King he may rule by his abſolute Prerogative, without a Parliament: and thus furniſh himſelf by a *Mariage* with us, and by other *Domeſtick* Projects without Subſidies, when leaving off Subſidies, and Taxes have been the only uſe Princes have made of ſuch: and whereas ſome Free-minds among them, reſembling our Nobility, who prefer the Priviledg of *Subjects* againſt *Sovereign* Invaſion; call for the Courſe of the *Common*-Law; (a *Law* proper to their Nation) there is other time *Servers* cry the Laws down, and up the Prerogative; whereby they pray upon the *Subjects* by their *Suites*, and *Exactions*; *mulct* the State, and keep it poor; procure themſelves much Suſpicion amongſt the Better and Judicious Sort, and hate amongſt the oppreſſed Commons: And yet if there ſhould be a Parliament ſuch a courſe is taken, as they ſhall never chuſe their Sheire *Knights* and *Burgeſſes* freely, who make the better-half of the Body thereof; for theſe being to be elected, by moſt Voices of the Free-Holders in the Country, where ſuch *Elections* are to be made, are carried which way the Great Perſons who have Lands in theſe Countries pleaſe; who by their Letters command their *Tennants Followers* and *Friends*, to nominate ſuch as adhere to them, and for the moſt of them are our *Faction*; and reſpect their own benefit and gain, rather than their Countries-Good: yea the Country People themſelves, will every one ſtand, for the *Great-Man* their *Lord*, or Neighbour, or Maſter, whithout regard of his Honeſty, *Wiſdom* and Religion. That which they aim at, (as I am aſſured by faithful Intelligence) is to pleaſe their *Landlords*, and to renew their Leaſe, in which regard they will betray their Country and Religion too: and Elect any Man that may moſt profit their Particular: Therefore it is unlikely there ſhould be a Parliament, and impoſſible the Kings Debts ſhould be paid, his Wants ſufficiently repaired, and left himſelf ful-handed by ſuch a Courſe: and indeed (as it is generally thought) by any other courſe than with a Marriage with us: for which Cauſe whatſoever Project we liſt to attempt, enters ſafely at the door, whilſt their Policy lyes aſleep, and will not ſee the danger, I have made tryal of theſe Particulars, and found few Exceptions in theſe general Rules; Thereby I and their own wants together have kept them from furniſhing their *Navy*, which being the Wall of their Iſland, and once the ſtrongeſt in Chriſtendom lies now at road, unarm'd and fit for ruine: If ever we doubted their ſtrength by Sea, now we need not, there are but few ſhips or men able to

took abroad, or to live in a ſtorm much leſs in a Sea fight. This I effected by buzing in their Ears, The furniſhing a Navy bred ſuſpition in my Maſter, and ſo would avert his mind from this Match, the hope of which rather than they would looſe, they would almoſt looſe their hope of Heaven.

Secondly, All their Voyages to the *Eaſt Indies* I permitted rather with a colourable reſiſtance, than a ſerious; becauſe I ſee them not helpful but hurtful, to the State in general; carrying out *Gold* and *Silver*, bringing home *Spice*, *Silks*, *Feathers* and ſuch like *Toyes*: an inſenſible waſting the Common Stock of *Coyn* and *Bullion*, whilſt it fills the Cuſtom Houſe, and ſome Private Houſes, who thereby are unable to keep this Diſcomodity on foot, by Bribes eſpecially: So many Great Perſons being Venturers and Sharers in the Gain: beſides this waſteth the *Mariners*, not one of ten returning, which I am glad to hear; for they are the Men we ſtand in fear of, as for the *Weſt-Indian* Voyages I withſtood them in earneſt, becauſe they began to inhabit there, and to fortifie themſelves, and may in time there perhaps raiſe another *England* to withſtand a *New Spain* in *America*: As this Old England oppoſeth our State, and clouds the glorious extent thereof in *Europe*: Beſides, there they trade for Commodities, without waſt of their Treaſure, and often return Gold for Knives, Glaſſes, or the like Trifles, without ſuch loſs of their Mariners as in other places: therefore I croſt whatſoever intendments were projected for *Virginia* or *Burmoudos*, becauſe they may be hereafter really helpful unto them, as now they ſerve for Dreyns to unload their Populous State, which elſe would overthrow his own Banks by continuance of Peace and turn head upon it ſelf, or make a Body fit for any Rebellion: And ſo far I prevayled therein, as I cauſed moſt of the *Recuſants* who were to go thither to withdraw their Ventures and diſcourage the work: So that beſides Private Perſons unable to effect much, nothing was done by the Publick Purſe: and we know by experience ſuch Voyages and Plantations are not effected without great means, to ſatisfy great difficulties, and with an unwearied Reſolution and Power to meet all hazards and diſtaſtes, with ſtrong help and continual ſupplies, or elſe the undertaking proves idle: By this means alſo I kept the Voluntary Forces from *Venice*, until it was almoſt too late to ſet out, and had hopt that work ſhould have broken forth to action, before theſe would have arrived to ſuccor them: I put hard for the *Cautionarie Towns*, which our late *Philip* of *happy Memory* ſo much aimed at, accounting them the Keys of the Low Countries, That they might be delivered to his *Catholick Majeſty*, as to the proper Owner, and had perhaps prevailed, but that the profeſt Enemy to our State and Church, who dyed ſhortly after, gave Counſel to reſtore them to the rebellious States, as one that knew popular Commonwealths to be better Neighbours, ſafer Friends, and leſs dangerous than Monarchs, and ſo by this practice wreſted from my hands, and furniſh'd the Exchequer from thence, for that time, neither was I much grieved, becauſe the dependency they had before of the *Engliſh* ſeem'd to be cut off, and the intereſt that the *Engliſh* had in them to be taken away, which muſt now fully and finally be effected before we can either hope to conquer them, or *England*, who holding together, are too ſtrong for the world at Sea; and therefore muſt be diſunited, before they can be overcome. This Point of State is acknowledged by our experienced Penſioner and ſure Friend *Monſieur Barnevelt*; whoſe ſucceeding *Plots* to this end ſhall bear witneſs for the depth of his Judgement.

But

But the laſt Service I did for the State, was not the leaſt; when I underwrought that *admirable Engine Rawley*; and was the cauſe his Voyage (threatning much danger to us) was overthrown and himſelf returning in diſgrace: I purſued almoſt to Death, neither (I hope) need I ſay almoſt, if all things hit right, and all things hold, but the determination of my Commiſſion would not permit me longer to ſtay to follow him to Execution, which I deſired the rather, that by Confeſſion I might have wrung from the inconſiderable Engliſh an acknowledgment of my Maſters right in thoſe places, puniſhing him for attempting there, though he might preſcribe for the firſt foot; and this I did to ſtop their mouths hereafter; and becauſe I would quench the Heat and Valour of that Nation, that none ſhould dare hereafter to undertake the like, or be ſo hardy to look out at Sea, or breath upon our Coaſt.

And laſtly, becauſe I would bring to an ignominious Death, that Old *Pirate*, who is one of the laſt now living, bred under that deceaſed *Engliſh Virago*, and by her fleſht in our ruine; to do this I had many Agents.

Firſt, Diverſe *Courtiers*, who were hungry and gaped wide for *Spaniſh Gold*.

Secondly, Some that bare him a grudg at the heart for inveterate Quarrels.

Thirdly, Some Foreigners, who having in vain ſought the *Elixir* hitherto, hoped to find it in his head.

Fourthly, all Men of the *Romiſh Faith*, who are of the *Spaniſh Faction*; and would have been my Blood-Hounds to hunt him or any ſuch to Death willingly, as Perſons hating the Proſperity of their Country, and the Valour, Worth and Wit of their own Nation, in reſpect of Us and our Catholick Cauſe.

Laſtly, I left behind me ſuch an Inſtrument compoſed artificially of a Secular Underſtanding, and a Religious Profeſſion, as he is every way adopted to ſcrew himſelf into the Cloſſet of the Heart, and to work upon *Feminine lenity*, who in that Countrey have *Maſculine Spirits* to command and purſue their *Plots* unto death, this therefore I count as done, and rejoyce in it, knowing it to be very profitable for us, grateful to our Faction there; and for the reſt, what though it be a croſs to the People, or that *Clergy*, we that only Negotiate for our own gain, and treat about this Marriage for our own ends, can conclude or break off when we ſee our own time, without reſpect of ſuch as can neither profit us, nor hurt us, for I have certain knowledge that the Commons generally are ſo Effeminate and Cowardly that at their Muſters (which are ſeldom, or ſleight, only for the benefit of their *Muſtermaſters*) of Thouſand Souldiers ſcarce an Hundred dare diſcharge a *Muſket*, and of that Hundred ſcarce one can uſe it like a Souldier; and for their Armes they are ſo ill provided that one *Corſlet* ſerves many men, when ſuch as uſe their Arms upon a day in one place, lend them to their Friends in other places, to ſhew them when they have uſe, and this if it be ſpied is only puniſhed with a Mulct in the Purſe, which is the Officer's aim, who for his advantage winketh at the reſt, and is glad to find and cheriſh by connivance profitable faults, which increaſe his Revenue, thus ſtands the State of that poor miſerable Country, which had never more People and fewer Men: ſo that if my Maſter would reſolve upon an Invaſion, the time never fits as at this preſent ſecurity of this Marriage, and diſuſe of Armes having caſt them into a deep ſleep, a ſtrong and weakning Faction being

being ever amongſt them ready to aſſiſt us, and they being unprovided of Ships and Armes, or Hearts to fight, an univerſal diſcontentment filling all men: This have I from their *Muſtermaſters* and *Captains*, who are many of them of our Religion, or of none, and ſo ours, ready to be bought and ſold, and deſirous to be my Maſters Servants in Fee. Thus much for the State particularly, wherein I have bent my ſelf to weaken them and ſtrengthen us, and in all theſe have advanced the *Catholick Cauſe*, but eſpecially in procuring favours for all ſuch as favour that ſide, and croſſing the other by all means, and this I practiced my ſelf and give out to be generally practiſed by all others that whatſoever ſucceſs I find I ſtill boaſt of Victory, which I do to diſhearten the *Hereticks*, and to make them ſuſpicious one of another, eſpecially of their Prince, and of their beſt Stateſmen, and to keep our own in courage, who by this means increaſe, but otherwiſe would be in danger to decay.

Now for *Religion*, and for ſuch deſigns as fetch their pretence from thence, I beheld the Policy of that late *Biſhop* of theirs (*Bancroft*) who ſtood up and maintained dangerons *Schiſme* between our *Secular Prieſts* ond *Jeſuites*, by which he diſcovered much weakneſs to the diſhonour of our *Clergy*, and prejudice to our Cauſe, this taught me as it did (*Barnevelt*) in the *Low Countries*, to work ſecretly and inſenſibly between the *Conformiſt* and *Nonconformiſt*, and to caſt an eye as far as the *Orcades*, knowing that buſineſs might be ſtirred up there that might hinder proceedings in *England*, and ſo to prevent their Conqueſt. The effect you have partly ſeen in the Earl of *Argyle*, who ſometime was Captain for the King and Church againſt the *Marqueſs Huntley*, and now fights under our Banner at *Bruxels*, leaving the Croſſes of St. *George* and St. *Andrew* for the Staff of St. *James*.

Neither do our hopes end here, for we daily expect more Revolters, at leaſt ſuch a diſunion as will never admit ſolid Reconcilement, but will ſend ſome to us, and ſome to *Amſterdam*, for the King, a wiſe and vigilant Prince, labouring for a perfect union betwixt both the Kingdoms, which he ſeeth cannot be effected where the leaſt Ceremony of *Religion* is continued, divers ſharp and bitter brawls from thence ariſing, whileſt ſome ſtriving for Honour more than for Truth, prefers their own way, and will, before the general peace of the Church, and the Edification of Souls; He, I ſay, ſeeks to work an uniformity betwixt both Churches, and to this end made a Journey into *Scotland*, but with no ſuch ſucceſs as he expected, for divers of ours attended the Train and ſtirred up Humours and Factions, and caſt in ſcruples and doubts to hinder and croſs the proceeding; yea thoſe that ſeem moſt averſe to us, and averſe to our Opinions by their Diſobedience and Example, helped forward our Plots, and theſe are encouraged by a Faction and heady multitude, by a falſe and irreſolute *Clergy* (many falſe Brethren being amongſt the *Biſhops*) and by the prodigal Nobility who maintain theſe ſtirrs in the Church, that thereby they may keep the Church-livings in their hands, which they have moſt Sacrelegiouſly ſeized upon in the time of the firſt Deformation, and which they fear would be returned by the *Clergy*, if they could be brought to Peace and agreement, for if they have ſeen the King very bountiful in this kind, having lately increaſed their Penſions, and ſettled the Clergy a competent maintenance

nance, and beſides out of his own means which in that Kingdom is none of the greateſt, having brought in and reſtored whole *Biſhopricks* to the *Church*, which were before in Lay-mens hands, a great part of the Nobilities Eſtates conſiſting of Spiritual Lands, which makes them cheriſh the *Puritanical Faction*, who will be content to be Trencher-fed, with Scraps, and Crums, and Contributions, and Arbitrary Benevolences from the *Lairds*, and *Lords*, and *Ladies*, and their adherents and followers.

But (quoth the *Inquiſitor-general*) now if this Act of the King wherein he is moſt earneſt and conſtant ſhould ſo prevail as it ſhould effect a perfect union both in *Church* and *Commonweal*. I tell you it would in my Conceipt be a great blow to us, if by a general meeting a General Peace ſhould be concluded, and all their forces bent againſt *Rome*, and we ſee their politick King aimes at this.

True (quoth *Gondamore*) but he takes his mark amiſs, howſoever he underſtands the People and their inclination better than any man, and better knows how to temper their paſſions and affections, for (beſides that he is hindred there in *Scotland* underhand by ſome for the reaſons before recited, and by other great Ones of ours who are in great places and Authority amongſt them) he is likewiſe deluded in this point by his own *Clergy* at home in *England*, who pretend to be moſt forward in the cauſe for they conſidering if a general Uniformity were wrought, what an Inundation would follow, whilſt all or moſt of theirs (as they fear) would flock hither for preferment (as men preſſing to the Sun for Light and heat, and ſo their own ſhould be unprovided, theſe therefore (I ſay) howſoever they bear the King in hand, or underhand againſt it, and ſtand for all Ceremonies to be obtruded with a kind of abſolute neceſſity upon them, when the other will not be almoſt drawn to receive any, when if an abatement were made, doubtleſs they might be drawn to inſert in the midſt, but there is no hopes of this with them, where neither Part deals ſeriouſly, but only for the preſent to ſatisfy the King and ſo there is no fear on our ſide, that affections and opinions ſo diverſe will ever be reconciled and made one: The B. of St. *Andrews* ſtands almoſt alone in the cauſe, and pulls upon himſelf, the labour, the loſs, and the envy of all with little proficiency, whilſt the adverſe Faction have as ſure Friends and as good Intelligence about the King as he hath, and the ſame *Poſt*, that perhaps brings a Packet from the King to him brings another from their Abettors to them, acquainting them with the whole Proceedings and Counſels, and preparing them aforehand for oppoſition, this I know for Truth, and this I rejoyce in, as concerning much the *Catholick Good*. But (quoth the *Nuntio* are there none of the *Heretical Preachers* buſie about this match, methinks their fingers ſhould itch to be writing, and their Tongues burn to be Prating of this buſineſs, eſpecially the *Puritanical Sort*, howſoever the moſt temperate and indifferent carry themſelves. The truth is my Lord (quoth the Embaſſador) that privately what they can, and publickly what they dare, both in *England* and *Scotland* all for the moſt part (except ſuch as are of our Faith) oppoſe this match to the utmoſt by Prayers, Counſels, Speeches and wiſhes, but if one be found longer tongued then his Fellows, we have ſtill means to charm their ſauſineſs, to ſilence them, and expell them the Court, to diſgrace them, and croſs their Preferment with the Imputation of pragmatick *Puritaniſm*, for inſtance I will relate this one particular, a Doctor of theirs, and a *Chaplain* in Ordinary to the King, gave many reaſons in a Letter againſt this Marriage, and propounded a way, how to ſupply the Kings wants otherways, which I underſtanding, ſo wrought underhand, That the Doctor was committed, and hardly eſcaped the danger of his preſumptuous Admonition, though the State knew

his Intent honeſt, and his Reaſons good, wherein we on the other ſide (both here and with the *Arch-Duke*) have Books penned, and Pictures printed directly againſt their King and State, for the which their *Embaſſadors* have ſought ſatisfaction of us in vain, not being able to ſtay the Print, or ſo much as to touch the Hem of the Authors Garment: But we have an Evaſion, which *Heretioks* miſs, our Clergy being freed from the Temporal Sword, and ſo not included in our Treaties and Conditions of Peace, but at liberty to give any *Heretical Prince* the ſlip when they liſt, whereas theirs are lyable to accompt and hazard, and are muſled for barking, when ours may both bark and bite too; the Counſel-Table and the *Star-Chamber* do ſo terrifie them, as they dare not riot, but run at the Stirrop with excellent Command, and come in at the leaſt rebuke: They call their preaching in many Places ſtanding up, but they crouch and dare not ſtand up, behaving themſelves like Sitters ſilent, creeping upon their Bellies lick the Duſt, which our Prieſts ſhake from their beautiful feet. Now (quoth the Duke of *Lerma*) ſatisfy me about our own Clergy, how they fare, for there were here Petitions made to the King in the name of the diſtreſſed, afflicted, perſecuted and impriſoned Prieſts, that his Majeſty would interceed for them, to free them from the intollerable burdens they groaned under, and to procure them their Liberties, and Letters were directed from us to that end, that you would negotiate that Demand with all ſpeed and diligence.

Moſt excellent Prince (replyed *Gondamore*) I did your Command with a kind of Command my ſelf, not thinking it fit to make it a Suit in your Name, or my Maſters, I obtained them Liberty to walk freely up and down, to face and outface their Accuſers, judge Magiſtrates, Biſhops, and to excuſe their Function almoſt as freely, altogetheras ſafely as at *Rome*.

Here the *Nuntio* replyed, that he did not well in his Judgment, in procuring their Liberty, ſince they might do more good in priſon than abroad, becauſe in priſon they ſeemed to be under perſecution, and ſo were pitied of others, and pity of the perſon prepares the affection further, beſides then they were careful over their own Lives to give none Offence, but abroad they might be ſcandalous in their Lives, as they uſe to be in *Rome* and *Spain* and other *Catholick Countries*, and ſo the opinion of their Holineſs, which upholds their credit and cauſe againſt the married Clergy, would ſoon decay.

But the Embaſſador anſwered, he conſidered thoſe Inconveniences, but beſides a ſuperiour Advantage aroſe from the profit of Liberty more than of Reſtraint, for now they might freely confer and were ever practiſing, and would doubtleſs produce ſome work of wonder, and beſides by reaſon of their Authority, and means to change places did apply themſelves to many perſons, whereas in priſon they could only deal with ſuch as came to be taught, and were their own before; and this (quoth he) add as a ſecret, that as before they were maintained by private Contributions to denounce *Catholicks* even to acceſs; ſo much more now ſhall they be able to gather great Sums to weaken the State, and furniſh them for ſome high attempt, by the example of Cardinal *Woolſey*, barrelling up Gold for *Rome*, and this they may eaſily do, ſince all *Catholicks* rob the *Heretical Prieſts*, and hold *Tithes* from them by *fraud* or *force*, to give to theirs of their own, to whom it is properly due; and if this be ſpyed, it is an eaſy matter to lay all upon the *Hollander*, and ſay, *He carryeth the Coyn out of the Land* (who are forward indeed in ſuch practiſes) and ſo ours ſhall not only be excuſed, but a flaw made betwixt them, to weaken their amities, and to get ſuſpition betwixt them of each others Love.

But

But amongst all these Priests, (quoth the *Inquisitor General*) did you remember, that Old Reverend Father *Baldwin*, who had a Finger in that admirable attempt made on our behalf against the Parliament House? Such as he deserving so rightly, adventuring their Lives so resolutely for the *Catholick Cause*, must not be neglected, but extraordinarily regarded, thereby to encourage others to the like undertaking.

Holy Father (quoth *Gondamore*) my principal care was of him, whose Life and Liberty when I had with much difficulty obtained of the King, I solemnly went in Person attended with my Train, and diverse other well-willers to fetch him out of the *Tower*, where he was in durance; as soon as I came into his sight, I behaved my self after so lowly and humble a manner, that our Adversaries stood amazed to see the Reverence we gave to our *Ghostly Fathers*; and this I did to confound them and their contemporous Clergy, to beget an extraordinary Opinion of Holiness in the Person, and Piety in us; and also to provoke the *English Catholicks* to the like devout Obedience, that thereby at any time their *Jesuites* (whose Authority was somewhat weakened, since the *Schism* betwixt them and the *Secular*, and the succeeding *POWDER PLOT*) may work them to our ends, as Masters their Servants, Tutors their Scholars, Fathers their Children, Kings their Subjects; and that they may do this the more boldly and securely, I have somewhat dasht the Authority of their High Commission; upon which whereas there are diverse Pursevants (Men of the worst kind and condition) resembling our Flies and Familiars, attending upon the Inquisition whose Office and Imployment, is to disturb the *Catholicks*, searching their Houses for Priests, Holy Vestments, Books, Beades, Crucifixes, and the like religious Appurtenances. I have caused the Execution of their Offices to be slackned, that so an open way may be given to our Spiritual Instruments, for the free exercise of their Faculties: And yet when these Pursevants had greatest Authority, a small Bribe in the Country would blind their Eyes, or a little greater at *Court*, or in the *Exchequer* frustrate and cross all their Actions, for that their Malice went off like Squibs, made a great Crack to fright Children and new-born Babes, but hurt no Old Men of Catholick Spirits; and this is the effect of all other their Courses of Proceedings in this kind, in all their Judicial Courts, whether known *Catholicks* committed as they style them, or often summoned and cited, threatened and bound over, but the danger is past so soon as the Officer hath his Fee paid him, then the Execution goeth no further: nay, upon my conscience they are as glad when there are offenders in that kind, because they are bountiful, and the Officers do their best to favour them, that they may encrease; and so their Revenue and Gain come in freely. And if they should be sent to Prison, even that place for the most part is made a Sanctuary to them; as the *Old Romans* were wont to shut up such, by ways of restraint, as they meant to preserve from the Peoples Fury, for they live safe in Prison, till we have time to work their liberty, and assure their Lives, and in the mean time their place of restraint is as it were a Study to them, where they may have opportunity to confer together as in a *Colledge*, and to arm themselves in Unity against the Single Adversary abroad.

But (quoth the Inquisitor General) how do they for Books, when they have occasion either to write or to dispute.

My Lord (replied *Gondamore*) all the Libraries belonging to the *Roman Catholicks* through the Land, are at their command, from whence they have all such

ſuch Collections as they can require gathered to their hands, as well from thence as from all the *Libraries* of both *Univerſities*, and even the Books themſelves if it be requiſite; beſides, I have made it a principal part of my Imployment, to buy all the *Manuſcripts* and other rare and antient *Authors* out of the hands of the *Heretiks*; So that there is no great Scholler dyes in the Land, but my Agents are dealing with his Books, in ſo much as even their learned *Iſaac Cauſabons* Library was in election to be ours, had not their Vigilant King (who foreſeeth all dangers, and hath his Eye buſie in every place) prevented my *PLOT*; for after the Death of that great Scholer, I ſent to requeſt a Catologue of his Books, with the Price, intending not to be outvied by any man, if money would have fetch'd them: Becauſe, beſide the damage that ſide ſhould have received by the leſs proſecuting the Cauſe againſt *Cardinal Baronius*, we might have made a good advantage of his Notes, Collections Caſtigations, Cenſures and Criticiſms for our Party, and framed and put out others under his Name at our pleaſure; But this was foreſeen by their *Prometheus*; who ſent that Torturer of ours, the *B.* of *Winchester*, to ſearch and ſort the Papers, and to Seal up the Study, giving a large and a Princelike allowance to the Relict of *Cauſabon*, with a bountiful Pention and Proviſion for Her and Hers; But this *PLOT* fayling at that time, hath not ever done ſo; nor had the *Univerſity* of *Oxford* ſo triumphed in their many Manuſcripts given by that famous Knight *Sr Thomas Bodly*, if either I had been then imployed, or this courſe of mine than thought upon; for I would labour what I might this way or any other way to diſarm them, or either to tranſlate their beſt *Authors* hither, or at leaſt to leave none but in the hands of *Roman Catholicks*, who are aſſuredly *ours*, and to this end a ſpecial Eye would be had upon the *Library* of one Sr *Robert Cotton* (an Ingroſſer of *Antiquities*) the moſt choice and ſingular pieces might be gleened, and gathered up by a *Catholick* Hand: Neither let any Man think That deſcending thus low to petty Particulars is unworthy an Embaſſador, or a ſmall avail for the ends we aim at, ſince we ſee every Mountain conſiſts of ſeveral Sands, and there is no more profitable converſing for *Stateſmen*, than amongſt Schollars, eſpecially the King, for whom we watch is the King of Scholars, and loves to live altogether almoſt in their Element: Beſides if we can by any means continue differences in their Church, or make them wider, or get diſtaſt betwixt their Clergy and Common-Lawyers, who are men of greateſt power in the *Land*, the Benefit will be *Ours*, and the Conſequent *Great*, opening way for us to come between, for perſonal quarrels produce real queſtions. As he was proſecuting this Diſcourſe one of the *Secretaries* (who waited without the Chamber) deſired Entrance, and being admitted, delivered Letters, which he had newly received from the Poſt, directed to the *Preſident* and the reſt of the *Council* from his *Catholick Majeſty*, the Contents whereof were to this Effect.

Right truſty and well beloved Couſins and Councellors: we greet you well, whereas we had a hope by our Agents in England *and* Germany *to Effect that great Work of the* Weſtern Empire, *and likewiſe on the other ſide to ſuppreſs* Europe, *at one inſtant, and infoulding it in our* Arms, *make the eaſier Road upon the* Turks *in* Aſia, *and at length reduce all the World to our* Catholick Command; *and whereas to this end we had ſecret and ſure* PLOTS *and* PROJECTS *on foot in all thoſe places, and good Intelligence in all* Courts; *Know now that we have received late and ſad News of the apprehenſion of our Truſty and able Pentioner* Barnevelt, *and of the Diſcovery of other our Intendments, ſo that our hopes are at preſent adjourned till ſome other more convenient and more auſpitious time, we therefore will You preſently, upon the ſight hereof, to break up your* Conſultations, *and Repair ſtraight to Our Preſence, there to take further Directions, and proceed as neceſſity of time and cauſe ſhall require.*

With that his Excellency, and the whole Houſe ſtook with Amazement, croſt their Foreheads, roſe up in a ſad ſilence, and brake up this Treaty abruptly, and without Tarrianee, took Horſe, and poſted to COURT, from whence expect News the next fair Wind.

In the mean time let not thoſe be ſecure, whom it concerns to be rouſed up, knowing that this aſpiring *Nebuchadnezar* will not looſe the Glory of his Greatneſs, who continueth ſtill to magnify himſelf in his *Great Babylon*, until it be ſpoken, *The Kingdom is departed from thee*, Daniel 4.

FINIS.

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